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The Office of Research and Reports was officially organized and placed in operation by CIA Regulation dated 19 January 1951. Although this was the official recognition of the existence of ORR, it had been in the planning stage for a number of months before the actual date of this regulation.

The first major problem facing the new office was an inventory of the gaps in economic intelligence. This inventory was undertaken by a group known as Task Force I. Task Force I was assigned the project number of 3-51 (Projects 1-51 and 2-51 were contributions to ONE which fell due before Task Force I had completed its inventory). The major work of the Task Force was completed by 30 June 1951. At that time, an extension. series of projects was planned. There was, however, almost nothing which parallels the present Research Program of ORR. Numbers were assigned to projects on the basis of due dates: that is, projects which would be due in 1951 had the suffix 51, and those due in 1952 had the suffix 52. In all there were 139 projects planned at this time. Of this total, 111 were due in Fiscal Year 1952 (1 July 1951-30 June 1952), and 28 were due in Piscal Year 1953 (1 July 1952-30 June 1953). Project 3-51 as such was never intended for publication -- it was merely an assessment of the existing gaps in intelligence. In the process of surveying the field, however, enough material was gleaned to merit the publication of 9 PR's.

During the summer of 1952, ORR began to feel the need for a more integrated research program. This new program was placed in effect on 1 October 1952 and was to last through 31 December 1953. (After the establishment of the Economic Research Area, in the summer of 1953, a new policy was begun, with a revised program being instituted which coincided with the limits of the Fiscal Year. This program was placed in effect on 1 December 1953 and covered the period 1 December 1953-30 June 1954. Since that time the Economic Research Area has been on a Fiscal Year basis.)

Between the date of the inception of ORR and the end of 1951, ORR published 82 intelligence documents, as follows: ORR's, 6 PR's, 16 IM's, 31 MP's, and 29 IP's (11 for ONE and 18 for other offices of CIA). Five of the 6 PR's published during this period were a result of the inventory taken by Task Force I.

Approximately one-half of the IM's published during this period represented a carry-over from the responsibilities of ORE. Those requirements levied against ORE which had not been answered before the reorganization were not left unanswered. ORR took the responsibility for filling the requirements. This was done by publishing IM's in those cases where a reply was possible. Requirements levied against ORR were answered by MP's. For this reason, there was great similarity between some of the IM's and MP's issued during the first months of the existence of ORR.

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Except for the convenience of tabulation, there is little reason to divide this period into calendar years, because the research carried on did not break down into anything like these chronological periods. During the period 1 January 1952-31 March 1953, however, CRR published 175 reports, as follows: 16 EIC's, 20 RR's, 20 PR's, 24 WP's, 8 IM's, 28 MP's, and 59 IP's (5 for OME and 54 for other CIA offices). All except one of these reports grew out of the work instituted as a result of the inventory taken by Task Force I.

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This was handed to (May 23, 1955) by
Mr. in ORR who has served in
that office in an editorial capacity since it
began. was instructed to get up this
material by Mr. Otto Guthe, AD/ORR.